



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

February - 2015 Volume 15, Issue 1

Bureau of Community Health Systems

Susan Mosier, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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Reorganization of Bureau of Environmental Health Programs Announced

by the Office of Communications

Susan Mosier, M.D., Acting Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) announced in January a reorganization of the Bureau of Environmental Health (BEH) programs, effective February 1.

- The Asbestos Program will be rejoining the Bureau of Air.
- The Environmental Public Health Tracking Program will become part of the Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics.
- The Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Prevention Program will become part of the Bureau of Family Health.
- The Radiation and Right-to-Know Programs are joining the Bureau of Community Health Systems as the Radiation Control Program.



While KDHE won't have a single bureau that goes by the name "Environmental Health," the agency's work in these critical program areas remains a departmental priority. Through this reorganization, KDHE will benefit from improved programmatic alignments that better support the KDHE mission, as well as the Governor's Road Map.

Director of the Division of Health Care Finance Named at KDHE

by the Office of Communications, KDHE

Susan Mosier, M.D., Acting Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, named Michael Randol as the new Director of the Division of Health Care Finance.

"Mike's experience with KanCare and the Division of Health Care Finance gives him a good background to serve as Division Director," said Secretary Mosier, M.D. "His past experience with other state governments and his experience in accounting in Kansas will be valuable to KanCare and the State Employee Health Plan."

Randol has served as the Director of Program Finance and Informatics for the Division of Health Care Finance since 2012. Prior to working for the Division of Health Care Finance, Randol worked as the State Veterans Services Manager for the Kansas Department of Commerce. Randol has also worked for U.S. Bank as the Vice President of Relationship Management and as the Deputy Budget Director for the Missouri Department of Social Services.

New Aid to Local Grant Application and Reporting Process Now Live

by Jane Shirley, Director, Center for Population Health and Local Public Health Program, Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE



The Kansas Aid to Local (ATL) application and reporting process is moving to an online system called Catalyst for the upcoming grant year. This new system will serve to improve the service that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) provides to local applicants and recipient organizations. Catalyst will also serve as the agency quality improvement and performance management system and will assist the agency in aligning all ATL grant activities and outputs. Roll out of the new

ATL Catalyst system for KDHE partners was January 15. Grant applications must be posted in Catalyst by 5:00 p.m., March 16. For more information click the Catalyst logo to access the ATL information webpage.

Training on the new Catalyst system for the ATL grant process is available via online courses through [KS-TRAIN](#). Course ID numbers, 1054439, 1054483, 1054567 and 1054672. Questions concerning the ATL grant process can be directed to Jane Shirley at jshirley@kdheks.gov or call 785-296-6549.

Regional Public Health Meetings

by Teri Caudle, Public Health Nurse Specialist,
Local Public Health Program, BCHS, KDHE



Don't miss the opportunity to attend one of the upcoming regional public health meetings created to connect local health departments (LHD) with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. These meetings are designed for the local LHD administrator; however, any staff person interested in a particular topic is welcome to attend. Register for the meetings through [KS-TRAIN](#), Course ID # 1053041.

The agenda includes the following: Denise McNerney with iBoswell will conduct training on the MacMillan Matrix and Matrix Map. These are great tools to for strategic planning and program sustainability. AJ Wolf, the new State Training Coordinator for the Kansas Health & Environmental Laboratories will present an update on the Laboratory Information Management System, explain expectations of the Clinical Laboratories and share pertinent information on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Bioterrorism and Chemical Terrorism programs.

The dates and locations are:

February 4 – Hutchinson (SC)

February 19 – Oakley (NW)

February 20 – Garden City (SW)

March 4 – Beloit (NC)

March 10 – Topeka (NE)

If you have ideas for regional meeting topics, please contact Teri Caudle at tcaudle@kdheks.gov.

Child Care Licensing Town Hall Tour 2015

by Lori Steelman, Program Director, Child Care Licensing
Bureau of Family Health, KDHE



A Child Care Licensing Town Hall Tour has been scheduled between February 10 and April 7.

The purpose of the 14 county tour is to have face to face, open discussion with child care providers, parents and community stakeholders regarding system improvements as well as perceived barriers in the licensing process. The meetings will serve as a forum to inform attendees of new initiatives and available services at the local and state levels. Local health departments and agency partners will have the opportunity to provide program and service information.

The meeting will include a short overview of the child care licensing program. This will not be specific to regulations, rather the broader system. The information attained from the discussion will guide the state to continued quality improvement for Kansas children.

Dates and location information can be found on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID# 1054858, by clicking the logo above to download the Town Hall Flier and also on the [Kansas Department of Health and Environment Child Care Licensing](#) website. All meetings will be held from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

KIC Site Updated

by Greg Crawford, Director, Vital Statistics Data Analysis
BEPHI, KDHE



Kansas Information for Communities (KIC) has a new URL, a new look, and new data years. The Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics (BEPHI) updated the look of the site, created a shorter URL, and streamlined site navigation. The new KIC URL is <http://kic.kdheks.gov/>. If you have old links, those will redirect to the new site.

KIC will continue to have the online queries for birth, death, pregnancy, cancer, hospital discharge and population. Documentation has been consolidated to enable faster access to the query pages. Help tips will be available when creating a query. KIC FastStats remains a feature for information that is not available as record level data.

New data included in KIC are: 2013 births, 2013 deaths, 2013 pregnancy outcomes, 2012 hospital discharges, 2013 Legislative Profiles and 2011 cancer incidence. FastStats was updated to include legislative district profiles for 2013. If you have questions about KIC, email kansas.health.statistics@kdheks.gov.

Start Planning for National Public Health Week - April 6-12

from APHA



The American Public Health Association (APHA) challenges all public health advocates to [sign the pledge to help create the Healthiest Nation in One Generation](#).

In coming weeks, the National Public Health Week website will feature factsheets, downloadable items and a user-friendly toolkit. The 2015 toolkit will offer concrete steps and a checklist for anyone wanting to attend a National Public Health Week event, host an event, organize on campus or help promote National Public Health Week in his or her community. The toolkit also explains how public health advocates can partner with health departments, community groups and other organizations to maximize their impact.

Visit the [National Public Health Week website](#) today to sign up for updates and to download the 2015 brochure. Be sure to check the site often to stay informed of the many resources coming available.

Technical Assistance Available for CHA, CHIP and Strategic Planning



by Sarah Hartsig,
Kansas Health Institute

The Kansas Health Institute is pleased to announce the continued availability of their Technical Assistance (TA) network. If you are working on your Community Health Assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan or Strategic Planning and need short, focused assistance to overcome a barrier in the process, this free TA is for you. Please email Sarah Hartsig at shartsig@khi.org with questions.

Preparedness Program Appoints Operations Specialist

by the Preparedness Program, KDHE

David Marshall joined the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Preparedness team in January as the program's Operation Specialist. David is a retired division head for Naval/Naval Reserve Intelligence and a volunteer with the Kansas Air National Guard Scout program. He worked for ten years with the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) as chairman of the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee developing partnerships between KDOT and other Kansas agencies. David has significant experience working with vendors, subject matter experts and external partners building collaborative processes and equally significant experience analyzing statistical data to identify problems and evaluate processes. David can be reached at 785-296-5201 or dmarshall@kdheks.gov.

Workforce Specialist Joins Local Public Health Program Team

by the Local Public Health Program

Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE



Daniel Lassley joined the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment on January 20 as the Workforce Development Specialist. This position is funded through the Public Health Practice Program from the Kansas Health Foundation. His office will be located at the Kansas Department of Health Environment (KDHE) where he will work with the Local Public Health Program team. Daniel's responsibilities will primarily focus on the public health workforce assessment and development of response to gaps identified. He will work closely with the Kansas Public Health Workforce Development Coordinating Council and associated workgroups. Daniel will also be conducting trainings on the use of KS-TRAIN for the development and configuration of training plans and on the development and delivery of targeted training opportunities.

Most recently, Daniel had been working as a training specialist with the Kansas Adjutant General's Department. He was an employee at KDHE in the past, working as the Dental Workforce Project Program Manager and also has experience working with Beltone as a Hearing Care Practitioner, with the Medicaid Working Healthy Program and with Big Brothers and Big Sisters. Daniel can be reached at 785-296-2742 or dlassley@kdheks.gov.

NHSC Loan Repayment Program Applications Available

from the NHSC



The 2015 National Health Service Corps (NHSC) [Loan Repayment Program](#) application cycle is now open and will close on March 30 at 6:30 p.m.

This Program provides loan repayment assistance to licensed primary care medical, dental, and mental and behavioral health providers who serve in communities with limited access to health care. There are both full-time and half-time service options.

The 2015 application cycle is expected to be competitive. On average, it can take up to three weeks to complete an application so applicants are encouraged to apply early. This year the process may improve for applicants, now that some loan information can be automatically populated by the National Student Loan Data System. Available resources include the [Application and Program Guidance](#) and instructions on [how to apply](#).

Lactose-free Milk is Real Cow's Milk

by Marley Sugar, Health & Wellness Program Manager
Midwest Dairy Council



February is Lactose Intolerance (LI) Awareness Month. Many people are not aware that LI-friendly dairy foods, including lactose-free milk, are made from real cow's milk. To help connect the dots watch this video and listen to dairy farmers Nathan and Sarah Kuehnert's story. For practical tips & helpful information on lactose intolerance and LI-friendly recipes, visit eatconfidentlywithli.org. For additional resources, educational videos, and presentations including CPE/CME opportunities visit NationalDairyCouncil.org.

Funding Opportunities

2015 Midwest Affiliate Community Innovation Grants Announced - Deadline February 12

from the American Heart Association

The American Heart Association is requesting proposals for Community Innovation Grants for up to \$5000.00 in funding to improve the cardiovascular health of the communities served and to help achieve the American Heart Association's mission to build healthier lives, free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke. The Association is particularly interested in novel, "high-risk, high-return" projects that engage those most at risk for cardiovascular diseases and stroke as well as hard-to-reach audiences and scalable projects that have the potential to be replicated in other markets along with plans for sustainability of the project beyond the funding period. The grants are intended for non-profit organizations, and applications are due by 5:00 p.m., February 12, 2015. For more information click the American Heart Association logo. Grant questions should be directed to Tina Steinway at 312-476-6685 or Liz Andrews at 312-476-6604.



Request For Proposals Issued for Sunflower Trails - Deadline March 11

from the Sunflower Foundation



The Sunflower Foundation is pleased to announce the 2015 Request for Proposals (RFPs) for the Sunflower Trails program and invites communities, schools and non-profit organizations to submit proposals for building, enhancing or connecting trails in order to create safe, accessible places for outdoor physical activity.

There are a variety of funding options for potential trail projects. Applicants are invited to review the following RFPs as a first step to determine the best fit for their project. Online applications are due Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. Funding awards will be announced mid-April. For more information and to download the RFPs, visit SunflowerFoundation.org/RFPs.

Health Care Scholarships Available - Deadline March 31

by KHERF

The Kansas Hospital Education and Research Foundation (KHERF) proudly offers the 2015 Health Care Scholarships. The Kansas Association of Health Care Executives, the Kansas Hospital Human Resources' Association, and the Kansas Chapter of HIMSS partners with KHERF to administer the scholarship programs. More than 20 scholarships are available for the 2015-2016 academic year, and students are encouraged to apply in the following categories:

- Nursing: undergraduate students in nursing (KHERF)
- Graduate: graduate level students in any healthcare discipline (KHERF)
- Future Faculty: students pursuing education necessary to become healthcare faculty (KHERF)
- Health Care: undergraduate students in non-nursing healthcare fields (KHERF)
- Healthcare Administration: students in healthcare administration (KAHCE)
- Human Resources: students in hospital human resource-related fields (KHHRA)
- Health IT: students in a technical health IT-related field (KSHIMSS)



Priority will be given to professions and regions experiencing shortages in Kansas. Find [applications](#) on the KHERF website at www.kherf.org. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact [Susan Cunningham](#) at 785-233-7436.

Community Tool Box Hosting Out of the Box Prize - Deadline April 30

by the Work Group for Community Health and Development, KU

The Community Tool Box is celebrating its 20th anniversary by hosting an Out of the Box Prize to honor exemplary approaches to promoting community health and development happening in communities worldwide. The Grand Prize winner will receive \$5,000; a Second Prize winner will receive \$3,000. All finalists' stories will be featured from the [Community Tool Box](#) website.

Your community group's work may involve activities to improve community health, education, urban or rural development; or to address poverty, the environment, or promote social justice.

The Work Group for Community Health and Development at the University of Kansas invites you to enter the contest, and encourages you to share contest information with others doing innovative work to improve life in their communities. To learn more, please [download an application form](#) or [click here](#) to apply now. Closing date for applications is April 30.

The Community Tool Box has been creating and disseminating practical guidance about community health and development online since 1995. We invite you to [visit us](#), where you will find over 300 how-to-do-it instructional modules, with over 7000 pages of text.



Training and Conference Announcements



Farmers' Market Regional Workshops - February thru March

*by Ginger Park, Communications Manager
Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE*



Farmers' market regional workshops will focus on current and prospective farmers' market vendors. Workshops will highlight tools vendors need to start or expand their business. Registration is only \$25 and includes lunch and more than 6 hours of workshops.

Workshop Locations:

- Atchison: February 7 [Click for the registration site](#)
- Chanute: February 21 [Click for the registration site](#)
- Pratt: March 7 [Click for the registration site](#)
- Olathe: March 20 [Click for the registration site](#)

Impacting School Wellness Workshops - February

*by Jill Ladd RD,LD, Team Nutrition and ART II Project Director
Child Nutrition & Wellness, Kansas State Department of Education*

Register by February 7, to attend one of the final two Impacting School Wellness Workshops hosted by the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), Child Nutrition & Wellness. Workshops will discuss the new Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines, observe a demonstration of KSDE's Wellness Impact Tool, gain wellness policy ideas and lessons learned from KSDE wellness coaches and schools, as well as learn about resources and programs to help further your school or districts wellness policies. Workshop dates and locations still available for registration include:

- February 24 - Garden City
- February 25 - Oakley

These free workshops will be conducted from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Lunch and a \$300 stipend will be provided by the Kansas Health Foundation for sponsors who have two or more representatives attend. The stipend can be used to offset travel costs and substitute pay. The registration form is available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, [What's New](#). Contact Jill Ladd at jladd@ksde.org or call her at 785-296-2790 with any questions about the workshop.



National Wear Red Day - February 6

For more information click [here](#).

Kansas Farmers' Market Conference - February 28 - March 1

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE

The Kansas Farmers' Market Conference will be held February 28 and March 1 in Manhattan at the Hilton Garden Inn. Market managers, board members, city/county officials and invested parties will have the opportunity to attend continuing education sessions focused on strengthening farmers' markets across the state. Keynote speakers and breakout sessions will include following topics:

- Marketing and social media
- Food safety exemptions and regulations
- Conflict resolution
- Community engagement
- Financial resources
- How to start a farmers' market in Kansas



For the full agenda, including specific keynote and breakout topics, please visit, FromtheLandofKansas.com/FMConference. There is also information on the site regarding the five regional farmers' market vendor workshops. Conference registration is \$45 per day or \$80 for both days.

Diabetes Self-Management Program Leader Training - March 3 - 4 & 10-11

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



The Kansas Foundation for Medical Care (KFMC) is offering the opportunity to become a Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) leader. As a trained leader you will be certified to facilitate DSMP workshops; workshops meet once a week, for six weeks. The workshop content covers topics ranging including diabetes symptoms, healthy eating, appropriate medication use, and working with healthcare providers. Each workshop is facilitated by two trained leaders, at least one of whom is living with diabetes. To find out more information about this program, visit the Stanford [website](#).

The next DSMP leader training opportunity is scheduled for, March 3 - 4 and 10 - 11 in Pittsburg. The separate Area Program Coordinator Training will be conducted on March 2 in Pittsburg.

This training will be from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on each day listed above, and registrants must attend each day of the training in full to receive certification and reimbursement. Training materials will be provided.

Area Program Coordinator (APC) training is also available for one identified staff or volunteer from each organization. The APC is from 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. and will help organizations plan their workshop facilitation. Coordinators will learn how to navigate leadyourhealthks.org and receive login information to help with workshop planning. Contact Megan Skaggs at 785-273-2552 Ext 345 or mskaggs@kfmc.org for questions and registration. Space is limited, so don't wait! Get your application in today!

Kansas City Hosting National Oral Health Conference - April 27-29



2015 marks the 70th Anniversary of Community water fluoridation. The CDC

touts community water fluoridation as one of the [10 greatest public health achievements](#) in the twentieth century. The American Association of Public Health

Dentistry will celebrate this achievement by hosting a plenary session on community water fluoridation at the 2015 [National Oral Health Conference](#), April 27-29 in Kansas City, MO; an event that you will surely not want to miss!



NACCHO Conference Coming to Kansas City

Registration is open for the 2015 NACCHO Annual Conference which will be held in Kansas City, MO, July 7-9. To receive the early bird registration discount, register on or before June 4. The registration portal may be found at <http://www.nacchoannual.org/register/>.

Having a Healthy Baby - Focus on Five



The Michigan Department of Community Health's Bureau of Epidemiology and Ohio Department of Health's Bureau for Children with Special Needs are offering self-study trainings for healthcare providers interested in improving the preconception and interconception health of women of childbearing age. These self-studies provide information and resources addressing some common risk factors for poor reproductive outcomes, with a particular emphasis on recognizing and decreasing the risk for birth defects. Having a Healthy Baby - Focus on Five, Course ID # 1028474 is posted to TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>. It is a free distance-learning course with continuing nursing education contact hours. The course currently has an average rating of 4.1 out of 5 stars.



Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds Archived on KS-TRAIN

*by Debbie Nickels, KS-TRAIN Administrator, Local Public Health Program
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



Recent Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds for the Fall 2014 session have been archived on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>. Archived courses include:

- Aug. 27, "Quality Improvement: Implementing Evidence-Based Practice" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID #1053272
- Sept. 3, "Learning from Experience While Looking Toward PHAB 1.5" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID #1053259
- Sept. 10, "Primary and Secondary Data Sources for Public Health Practice" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID #1053264
- Sept. 17, "The Health Challenge: Mental Health Disparities and Overall Health Equality" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID # 1053484
- Sept. 24, "Cultural Sensitivity and Health Equity: Preparing to Meet the PHAB Standards" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID #1054351
- Oct. 8, "You Have Red Spots Like Me! Measles Transmission Throughout History and Today" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID #1053745
- Oct. 15, "Public Health Law 101 - Promoting a Health Kansas" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID #1053487
- Oct. 22, "The Value of Advocacy - Public Health's Return on Investment" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID #1053857
- Oct. 29, "Human Trafficking in Healthcare" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID #1054003
- Nov. 5, "Promoting HEALTH: Health Equity and Access Through Listening and Teaching in a Holistic Approach" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID #1054083
- Nov. 12, "Epidemiologic Profile of E-Cigarette Use in Kansas" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID #1054718
- Dec. 3, "Cost Analyses for Public Health Interventions" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID # 1054719
- Dec. 10, "Marijuana: An Emerging Public Health Concern" Archived WEBCAST, Course ID #1054722

Quitline Provider Training

by the Bureau of Health Promotion

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is now offering a free comprehensive online training on Brief Tobacco Intervention techniques to help health care providers work with patients to quit tobacco. The interactive training takes approximately 45 minutes. The online training can be used by a wide range of providers including doctors, nurses, front office staff, dentists, dental hygienists and respiratory therapists.

The training includes two audio clips of Quitline phone counseling sessions and demonstrations of clinicians delivering the brief intervention to a tobacco user and is available at www.kstobaccointervention.org.

At the conclusion of the educational offering providers will be able to:

- Use the brief tobacco intervention with all patients who use tobacco
- Refer patients who are ready to quit to the Kansas Tobacco Quitline
- Describe Food and Drug Administration approved cessation pharmacotherapy
- Describe the benefits of the Kansas Tobacco Quitline



The training is under review by the American Academy of Family Physicians for CME accreditation. Continuing education credits for other fields such as nursing and respiratory therapy are also being pursued.

Web-Based Personal Protective Equipment Training

from CDC



A new web-based training, demonstrates the procedures described in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for donning and doffing personal protective equipment (PPE) for all healthcare providers entering the room of a patient hospitalized with known or suspected Ebola virus disease (Ebola). The course provides practical tools for healthcare providers preparing to manage or currently managing patients with Ebola in U.S. healthcare facilities. See Course ID # 1054088, on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org/>.

One Health Modules Posted to KS-TRAIN

by Kansas State University



One Health Kansas is offering the following noncredit modules and opportunities for physicians, advanced practice nurses, nurses, EMS, social workers and adult home care administrators. Human health providers must take all five modules to receive five continuing education hours. Cost of the five modules is \$110, or \$22 per module. The One Health Modules, Course ID #1054723 on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org> include the following topics: One Health, Influenza, Zoonotic Tick-borne Disease, West Nile Virus and Shiga Toxin-Producing *E.coli*.

News and Resources



Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. The next call will be February 24. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.

New Multilingual Resource for Informing Patients About Tuberculosis



The Kansas Tuberculosis Control Program and Special Population Health at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment have developed an educational flipchart originally produced by the Australian Respiratory Council entitled What is TB? This resource has been converted into pdf format and translated into ten different languages: Arabic, Burmese, Farsi, French, HakaChin, Napali, Somali, Spanish, Swahili and Tigrinya. With the permission of the Australian Respiratory Council, refugee resettlement agencies, local public health departments and TB clinics will be able to utilize the electronic version as part of their community outreach and patient education efforts. Using simple language and colorful illustrations, What is TB? serves as an educational aid providing basic information of the ways in which TB can be contracted and spread to others. It goes on to illustrate how TB affects the body and what symptoms patients should be on the lookout for. Finally, What is TB? offers patients information on how to treat the disease, if contracted. To receive a copy of the CD, What is TB? please contact Antonette Goodman, agoodman@kdheks.gov.

Kansas Health Matters Website Has New Look

The web-based tool Kansas Health Matters has been updated with a new look and navigation tools. The website can be accessed by anyone interested in actionable information for community health improvement in Kansas. Kansas Health Matters contains county, regional and state health indicators along with tools and resources for community health assessment and community health improvement efforts. The site is made possible by the Kansas Partnership for Improving Community Health.



Sign Up for Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update

Looking for Oral Health news in Kansas? Consider signing up for the Oral Health Kansas [Weekly Wednesday](#) Update. On January 14, Oral Health Kansas highlighted great books for Children's Dental Health Month in February.



Safeway Pharmacy Incorporating Customer Smoking Cessation Interventions

Safeway Pharmacy [reported](#) that beginning in January 2015, all of its locations will use the Ask-Advise-Refer model to identify and assist individuals who wish to stop smoking. Safeway is the first community pharmacy chain to incorporate an organization-wide initiative to include brief smoking cessation interventions as a routine component of patient care. The company is emphasizing smoking cessation as part of an expansion of its scope of services offered to patients struggling with behavioral health conditions, addiction or recovery, HIV, and diabetes.



Kansas Influenza Surveillance Data Available Through KDHE Website

Kansas regulations do not require health care providers to notify the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) when a patient is diagnosed with influenza. Instead, influenza activity is measured through the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), a collaboration between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state, local, and territorial health departments. Click the logo to access the Influenza Surveillance data and charts on the KDHE website.



New Guide on Rural Human Services Now Available

*by Ashley Muninger, Rural Health Coordinator
State Office of Rural Health, KDHE*

Human services play an important role in addressing the social determinants of health and controlling healthcare costs. The new [Rural Assistance Center](#) topic guide, Human Services to Support Rural Health, gives an overview of the issues, provides key sources of information related to rural human services, and shares ideas of how rural healthcare and human services providers can work collaboratively to ensure that patients have access to the social supports necessary to meet their basic needs.



Traveling Sugary Drink Display

Don't forget to reserve the Oral Health Kansas (OHK) traveling sugary drink display for 2015. Common locations for the drink display include schools, libraries, and dental offices. OHK is making some exciting changes to the display so don't miss out! [Email Sarah](#) if you are interested in hosting the display. Want more information? [Click here!](#)



KHRIS Provides Rural Health Notices



The Kansas Rural Health Information Service or KRRHIS, provides updates on news in the Bureau of Community Health Systems, at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and on rural health issues affecting Kansas. KRRHIS is open to public and is free to use. Users can register on-line to receive email notices of a broad range of health issues and can search an on-line database of health information. Click the logo to learn more about KRRHIS and to register for notices.

U.S. Surgeon General Confirmed

[Dr. Vivek Murthy](#) was confirmed as the next [US Surgeon General](#). Dr. Murthy has been described as an innovator who has demonstrated a strong commitment to public health through both professional and personal endeavors, including co-founding [Doctors for America](#), a non-for-profit organization aimed at improving the health of the nation and to ensure that everyone has access to affordable, high quality health care. Dr. Murthy's appointment was received with great praise from many healthcare organizations, and is sure to provide opportunities for public health dentistry.

Job Postings

Applications are being accepted for the positions listed below.

Finney County Health Department

- [Advanced Practical Registered Nurse](#)
- [Records Clerk](#)

Flint Hills Community Health Center

- [Family Medicine Doctor \(MD/DO\) or Nurse Practitioner \(APRN\)](#)
- [Licensed Practical Nurse \(LPN\) or Medical Assistant \(MAs\)](#)
- [Behavioral Health Specialist \(Social Worker\) - Emporia](#)
- [Behavioral Health Specialist \(Social Worker\) - Eureka](#)
- [Access Specialist Manager - Emporia](#)
- [Business Office Specialist—Emporia](#)

Ford County

- [Public Health Nurse](#)

Franklin County Health Department

- [Registered Nurse Supervisor \(Public Health\)](#)

Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department

- [Analyst](#)
- [Communication Specialist](#)
- [Environmental Health Specialist](#)
- [Health Promotion Specialist](#)

Pottawatomie County Health Department

- [IMM Coordinator/Public Health Nurse](#)

Reno County Health Department

- [Certified Nurse Aide Licensed](#)
- [Advanced Practice Registered Nurse \(APRN\)/Physician Assistant Part-Time 24 hrs](#)

Riley County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse](#)
- [Raising Riley RIGHT Child Care Facilitator](#)
- [Raising Riley RIGHT Literacy Facilitator](#)

Sedgwick County Health Department

- [Director of Health Department](#)
- [WIC Registered Dietician/Public Health Nurse](#)
- [WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor-PT](#)
- [Mobile Immunization Nurse](#)

Shawnee County Health Agency

- [Registered Nurse \(Primary Care-Women's Health\)](#)
- [Registered Nurse \(MCH-BBHF\)](#)
- [Licensed Practical Nurse \(Primary Care-Women's Health-Float\)](#)
- [Mid-Level Practitioner \(Primary Care\)](#)
- [Social Worker, MSW](#)

Wyandotte County Health Department

- [Nurse Practitioner](#)

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)

[Health Homes Herald](#)

[KanCare Advisor](#)

[Kansas Environmental News](#)

[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)

[Nutrition and WIC Update](#)

[ZIPS Newsletter - Bureau of Family Health/Children and Families](#)

[Green Guide](#)

[What's Happening Wednesday \(Immunization\)](#)

Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter, e-mail bchs@kdheks.gov.

Previous issues of Public Health Connections may be found at

http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm

Send your public health news to

Debbie Nickels at dnickels@kdheks.gov.